

THE BEE

PUBLISHED
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GOVERNMENT SLAVERY

If all reports are true as has been given to The Bee, it is not necessary to go any further South, than the District of Columbia to find Negro slavery. In the Department of the Interior, that great and good man, Secretary Ballenger at the head, colored laborers are oppressed and almost enslaved by a class of sub-bosses and understrappers.

Complaints come thick and fast to the office that there are no regular work hours for colored laborers. That they are compelled to work overtime and at night without additional compensation. That there are men who issue new orders almost every night in violation of the secretary's orders. There are some men more badly treated than others and are told that they must work full time during the month of July, August and September in violation of Executive order of June 8th. The Bee has sufficient confidence in Secretary Ballenger to know that it is only necessary to call his attention to those impostors upon his colored employees. The Interior Department is not the only department under the Government in which complaints are made concerning colored employees. The Bee believes that the heads of every department give their under-employees too much authority. The sudden elevation of a white man from a laborers job to a boss job causes him to lose his head. It is dangerous some time to suddenly elevate a poor white man or an ignorant colored man. The Bee hopes that Secretary Ballenger will establish an immediate investigation and correct these wrongs.

JACK JOHNSON.

If the press dispatches are true, Mr. Jack Johnson is wasting his money in automobiles and arrests for fast driving. Aside from his pugilistic reputation he is gaining a reputation for violating the law. Mr. Jack Johnson ought to know, if he doesn't that financial successes very seldom come to a man in life but once. When the world base ball championship came to a close a few weeks ago and when a division of the spoils was made the more economical of the players decided to dispose of their money in a manner that would bring more to them. But Mr. Johnson, as fast as he earns his money he must blow in for a new automobile or be arrested for fast driving. The Bee throws out this hint to Mr. Johnson in the hope that he will profit by it. Mr. Johnson will not be without friends so long as he has plenty of money, but the moment he is without money he will be minus of friends. It is your friends Mr. Johnson who tell you of your faults and your enemies are those who are always willing and ready to eat you up.

THE CLANSMAN

Whenever the Clansman has

appeared the colored people have made a great to do about it. From The Bee's standpoint it sees nothing in the play that the colored people should go frantic over. The play is going to Boston and The Bee hopes that the Massachusetts colored citizens will attend the play if they so desire and if they don't want to attend it stay away. The more fuss you kick up about the play the more you advertise it. It will die a natural death if you will permit it to run.

A GREAT BOOK

A great book is in preparation published in the interest of the colored Americans, by Mr. W. N. Hartshorn of Boston, Mass. From the standpoint of The Bee it will be the greatest work of its kind ever published. Dr. Booker T. Washington will have something to say about this book.

RECORD BREAKER

Three hundred new subscribers were added to the subscription books of The Bee last month and four thousand copies over the regular number were printed. Men if you want a live, wide-awake paper read The Bee.

MISSIONARY MAXFIELD SPEAKS.

He Gives Some Remarkable Statistics. Good Advice to the Young Colored American.

The Christian Endeavor meeting held in the Third Baptist Church last Sunday evening was largely attended. The singing and the many instrumental selections added greatly to the occasion. The pastor, Rev. James H. Lee, delivered a short address, and he was followed by Mr. Miles C. Maxfield, the coming missionary, who delivered the principal address.

The subject of Mr. Maxfield's address was mission work in the District of Columbia. Among other things he said, in part, that the white population in this city was 241,920, and 97,483 colored people. From both races Mr. Maxfield gave the number of arrests and the crimes committed by both. His picture of the crimes committed by both races was lamentable. He thought that there was a great deal of missionary work that was neglected in this city among all classes of people, but particularly the colored people. He claimed that illiteracy was at its highest point in 1870, when it was 83 per cent; and in 1900 it had fallen to 47 per cent.

This great educational blessing, said Mr. Maxfield, has come to the colored American race within thirty years. In speaking of education among the colored people, he said that since 1880 the colored churches have contributed for Negro education \$9,549,700; this amount was paid to supplement deficiencies of the State school funds for the colored race.

This is an evidence of the interest that our churches manifest in the up-life of the race.

"My dear friends," eloquently said the speaker, "we have 23,462 church organizations, and we have erected 23,770 churches, with a seating capacity of 6,800,000. Have we advanced? Are we doing anything? Look if you please at the rapid advancement we have made since our emancipation. Another remarkable thing is, we have a church membership of 2,673,977, and the value of our church property amounts to \$26,626,448. From 1777 to 1798 there was a zeal for Bible distribution and Home Mission work began to manifest itself in the northern colonies. A petition to Congress for Bibles received favorable action, and 20,000 were ordered from Holland. In 1816 the American Bible Society was organized, and its revenue amounted to \$37,000, and it was increased to \$450,000 for Bible distribution in 1902. This good work went on, and the light and truth began to show themselves for Home Missions.

"The American Tract Society soon followed. This society was organized in 1825, and in seventy-five years it has issued nearly 8,500 separate books and tracts, two thousand of which were bound volumes. Thirty-two million copies have been circulated, with a total of moral and religious truth amounting to two hundred and sixty millions. The American Sunday School Union took its

present form in 1824. At that time there were only one hundred Sunday Schools in the United States. Sunday Schools are on the increase; the Christian Churches are doing much good for the lowly. Nearly eighty years of work has opened more than one hundred thousand Sunday Schools, with six thousand teachers and five million scholars.

"In the year 1800 our entire population numbered about four million, and seven hundred thousand of these were colored slaves.

"Within thirty years thereafter six million emigrants had settled in the country, and from 1865 to 1885 there were seven million more foreigners added, some being of the roughest kind, which demanded earnest mission workers.

"There are one hundred and sixty cities in the United States each having a population of twenty-five thousand, making a total of twenty million people, nearly one-fourth of our entire population."

After reviewing other incidents in connection with Home Mission work Mr. Maxfield concluded by paying a fine tribute to the work of the Christian Churches and the work of the many Christian Endeavor Societies. We should not be too proud to enter the alleys and the lowly huts and try to save fallen humanity. It is our duty as Christians to see to it that those who are going astray be brought into the Sunday School.

THE SO-CALLED "SPANISH SWINDLE."

The Department of State, at Washington, has received a report from the American Consul-General at Barcelona, Spain, in regard to the band of swindlers operating in various towns and cities in Spain, who make a practice of writing to persons in the United States respecting the imprisonment of relatives and the guardianship of a child.

The Consul-General states that the alleged prisoner generally describes himself as a political prisoner from Cuba; he is at the point of death and has but one friend—the prison priest—through whose good offices he is enabled to smuggle an occasional letter out of the prison fort.

The prisoner is rich. He has a fortune in cash on deposit in the United States, but the certificate of deposit is concealed in a secret receptacle of his valise; the valise itself has been taken possession of by the court at Carthage, which tried and condemned him, and will be held until the prisoner or his representative has satisfied the costs of the trial. The prisoner has an only daughter; dying in his prison, his sole thought is of this beloved offspring. He has no friend or relative in Spain to whose care he can commit her. In this emergency his thoughts turn to the distant relative in the United States whom he has never seen and of whom he knows only through hearsay or the family tree. What distant relative assume the guardianship of the darling daughter, and the darling daughter's fortune of about \$30,000? If the distant relative accepts the trust one-fourth of the prisoner's entire fortune will be the material reward. The good priest will go at once to the United States and take the darling daughter with him. There is but one condition: the ready money which the prisoner brought with him to Spain has been exhausted; the distant relative is therefore requested to send enough to liberate the valise containing the secret receptacle and the certificate of deposit. This money is to be sent to the good priest at an address indicated, and, having received it, the good priest will at once secure the valise and start for America, the "land of the free and the home of the brave," with the darling daughter.

The above is generally the first letter of the series. It is quickly followed by another in which the prisoner pathetically states that his strength is rapidly failing and the end is near. He beseeches his dear distant relative to assume the trust and be a loving father to the darling daughter. The third letter is from the good priest himself, who in brief, touching terms, and hopelessly bad English, announces the death of the unhappy prisoner; the good priest adds that the darling daughter is under his care. He is ready to put his promise into execution and start for the United States as soon as he shall have received the necessary funds from the distant relative. The good priest frequently incloses with his letter a bogus newspaper clipping announcing the death in prison at Barcelona of the famous Cuban patriot (sometimes called Augustin Lafente) the newspaper notice also speaks cunningly of the confiscated valise and the darling daughter.

It is a simple scheme, but pre-

sented in such a plausible way that almost any unsuspecting "distant relative" of European extraction would be more or less deceived by the glad prospect of falling heir to the agreeable custody of a darling daughter with a big fortune, and a one-fourth interest therein as an additional recompense.

Naturally the first impulse of the distant relative is to ask a lawyer or a judge or some authority what course he ought to pursue in the premises, but as he thinks of doing this his attention is taken by the warning in the prisoner's letter beseeching him not to mention the matter to any living soul lest the secret of the valise and the hidden receptacle be indiscreetly betrayed.

The valise, after all, with its concealed certificate of deposit, is the key to the situation and possession must be taken of it before anything can be done or said. This (so cunningly set forth by the prisoner) is very evident to the distant relative, and so he quite frequently preserves the secret intact, and instead of consulting a lawyer or writing to the American Consul-General at Barcelona he quietly sends a draft for the sum demanded to the good priest and awaits results. Of course he waits in vain, and the poor, dead prisoner and the good priest and the darling daughter in the course of time pass out his life forever, leaving him only an uncomfortable memory of the money he so cheerfully contributed to the confidence game.

For nearly twenty years these same knaves have been practicing their swindle, and it is needless to suggest that they are very carefully organized; they have confederates not only in the United States but in most other countries. The confederates in question select a man and find out all they can about him; they get hold of family names, family origin, and family characteristics. This information is transmitted to the rascals in Spain, and letters are at once written to the prospective victim. The scheme is presented and developed in a very plausible way and many of our fellow-countrymen have "bitten" promptly and cheerfully.

Under the Spanish laws a felony must be consummated before the police may act, and a mere attempt to obtain money by false pretenses does not appear to warrant arrest. The money must be actually paid over and the prosecuting witness must be present in propria persona to testify; otherwise prosecution would be useless.

Recently the letters written to the distant relative have varied somewhat from the original; the political prisoner having become a noted Russian banker who absconded, leaving a deficit of some millions of rubles, killed in a quarrel in England another Russian, and finally took refuge in Spain, where he was apprehended and charged with manslaughter.

This change of character, however, is immaterial, and in the future more new characters will probably be introduced by the gang. The scheme is the same, and the public is warned to place no credence in such or similar letters.

Every effort has been made by the Department of State and its representatives in Spain to unmask these scoundrels and bring them to justice, and the Spanish authorities have also been active and several members of the gang have been apprehended and held for trial, but so far no convictions have resulted, owing probably to the peculiarity of the Spanish law referred to in the report of the Consul-General at Barcelona.

Department of State,
Washington, D. C. October, 1909.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

It will be remembered that some time ago an effort was made by the white Presbyterian Churches to separate the whites from the blacks. Although the white Presbyterians, like other white denominations, would prefer to have the colored communicants separate and distinct from theirs. The colored Presbyterians knowing that caste prejudice exists continue to play second fiddle to these white people.

Rev. E. W. Williams of Abbeville, S. C., has issued a declaration of principles which should be read by all colored Presbyterian Churches in the United States. It reads as follows:

1.—That on May 20, 1898, a separate and distinct Afro-American Presbyterian Church was fully organized.

2.—That one year later this organization was duly chartered under the laws of the land.

3.—That subsequently this Charter

was duly ratified by the Synod of the Afro-American Presbyterian Church.

4.—That for eleven years the Synod of the Afro-American Presbyterian Church has held its regular annual meetings.

5.—That the Afro-American Presbyterian Church, thus organized, commends itself to the colored race and appeals to its pride and self-respect, thus commanding the approval of the race and insuring its moral and financial support to a degree not to be expected or hoped for under conditions that have prevailed during the last forty years or more.

6.—That the seed which has been so faithfully sown by our white church organizations, cannot bear fruit more effectually than by developing a separate and distinct church organization that self-respecting colored Presbyterians can call their own.

7.—That the mission of the colored Presbyterian ministry is of necessity primarily to the colored people, and any method of work that seeks to foster racial amalgamation is, to say the least, abnormal, and must inevitably fail.

8.—That a frank acknowledgment of existing conditions from a racial standpoint on the part of both races is the wisest and best way to facilitate work and efforts in the interest of either race.

9.—That a church with a white head and a black body fails to commend itself to either race, and neither race, under existing conditions, can be benefited by such a combination.

10.—That the one great need of the hour now is, so far as colored Presbyterians are concerned, is a general union of forces.

11.—That there are sixty-two thousand colored Cumberland Presbyterians with their own churches, Presbyteries and Synods. Thirty-three thousand colored Presbyterians with churches, Presbyteries and Synods which have some sort of ineffectual alliance with the Northern Presbyterian Church. Twenty-two thousand colored Presbyterians who have their affiliation with the Southern Presbyterian Church. Twelve thousand colored Presbyterians who in one way or another affiliated with the Reformed churches, having little or no organic connection. Four thousand five hundred colored Presbyterians, with their own complete church organization, under the Afro-American Presbyterian Church. It is safe to say that there are at least ten thousand floating, unclassified colored Presbyterians.

12.—That it is the sacred mission of the Afro-American Presbyterian Church, with the Divine guidance, and with the help and cooperation of all good Presbyterians, North and South, to bring together into one grand body all these divergent elements of colored Presbyterians, and constitute a colored Presbyterian General Assembly.

E. W. Williams,
Synodical Evangelist of the Afro-American Presbyterian Church. For further information, address Rev. E. W. Williams, D. D., Abbeville, S. C.

MASONIC NOTES

Blue Lodges
The jewel contest among the several lodges has been going on for the past week. Only three lodges entered the contest this year, namely: Social, No. 1; Eureka, No. 5, and Prince Hall, No. 14. The judges will submit their report to the Grand Lodge in December, and the jewel will be awarded to the successful lodge.

K. T.

The Grand Commandery closed its 38th Annual Conclave on Thursday night. Reports from the several committees were submitted, also the special committee on the Grand Commander's address. The report was adopted, except one item—there was quite a large number of the members of the Grand Commandery—also Emt. Sir Kt. Thomas H. Smith and staff of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, who came over to assist in the installing the officers of the Grand Commandery elect after the routine business. The retiring Grand Commander Emt. Sir Wm. G. Smith assisted by Sir Thomas H. Smith and J. W. Freeman installed the grand officers as follows:

Emt. Sir John P. Turner, Gr. C.; Sir J. P. Davis, V. Z. D. G. C.; Sir W. W. Walker, Gr. Generalissimo; Sir P. H. Simmons, Gr. Capt-Gen'l; Sir W. H. Severson, Gr. Prelate; Sir Brooks Burr, Gr. Treas.; Sir Jas. O. Bampfield, Gr. Rec.; Sir S. S. Thompson, Gr. Sr. W.; Sir S. C. Burnett, Jr., Gr. W.; Sir N. E. Weatherler, Gr. Inspt.; Sir H. P.

Jackson, Sword-bearer; Sir Geo. W. Semmer Steward, Bearer; Sir Herbert H. Lancaster, Warder; Sir Solomon Phillips, Gr. Sentinel. After conclave was closed the Sir Kts. repaired to the Hotel Quistic, on Pa. Avenue, N. W., where an elaborate spread was enjoyed by all. Remarks were made by Sirs J. P. Turner, L. C. Bailey, J. W. Freeman (the kid), and others. And at a late hour, all departed for their homes. Sir Kt. J. P. Turner has named the several committees, the roster will soon be out. Semi-annual conclave will be held in April, 1910.

It was a thing of beauty and joy that met the gaze of the reporter as he passed through the portals of the great audience room of King Solomon and beheld the beautiful Honored Maid and princesses that surrounded King Solomon. Sir Kt. S. S. Thompson and the Mother Queen Honor Lady Beatrice Richardson seated on the throne to receive the Queen of Mocha and her train had come to hear the wisdom of Solomon, who too much credit cannot be given to the corps of officers who assisted in the reception, for it was sublime. There 12 candidates who entered the chair of Marion on Friday night. And the work was perfect, there were many Past Mother Queens, and Princess Pocint Hon. Lady. Fannie L. Cox presided at the piano and rendered sweet music.

Queen Esther worked the Eastern Star on Thursday on 8 candidates.

Grand Chapter held quarterly session on Thursday night.

THE SUNDAY SHOWS.

"The Christian people in this city should see to it that a law is passed prohibiting the moving picture shows from showing on the Sabbath. . . . Every pulpit in the city should preach against them."

"The Bee," October 15th.
At the head of this great nation, the church bells dare not ring,
Some day they'll put a muzzle on folks who shout and sing;
We have all kinds of noises throughout the live-long year,
But the sweet ringing church bells strike terror to the ear.

A glorious example for Washington to show!
The church pews are half empty, where do the people go?
Where are the men and women, the little girls and boys?
Who love a quiet Sabbath and hate the church bell's noise?

Do they stay at home to slumber, to rest and take their ease?
Or in some quiet haven to dream of love and peace?
Just watch those dens of Satan, those moving pictures shows
That desecrate the Sabbath, they are the Christians' foes.

A shame on this great city, this grand old nation's home
To seek as a diversion, the sins of ancient Rome;
To desecrate the Sabbath in this enlightened age
When there's six days for vaudeville, theatres and the stage.

No wonder that the church bells strike terror to the ear,
They make the guilty conscience, and fill the heart with fear;
Those gilded dens of Satan would lose some of their charms
If folks could hear the church bells like judgment's dread alarms.

The powerful press, the pulpit, the churches, one and all,
Should all unite their voices in one great clarion call
Against this monstrous outrage in this, our nation's home
Lest some day we grow bolder and fall like ancient Rome.

—James Conway Jackson,
2501 14th St., N. W.

RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

The Horizon is to be resurrected November 15. The Horizon will have three editors, W. E. Bunghard DuBois, assisted by L. M. Hershaw and F. H. M. Murray. This resurrected monthly will have enough editors to move the world.

HOTEL MACBO.

When visiting New York City, stop at the Hotel Macbo 219 West 59th Street, corner Broadway. Steam heated Telephone Box. R. P. Thomas, Prop.